

**Remarks**

A restriction requirement has been imposed on the Applicants by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 121, in accordance with which the Applicants are required to elect a one of the following inventions as defined by the Examiner:

- I. Claims 1-21, drawn to a method of estimating a quantity of media sheet remaining in a stack, classified in class 399, subclass 23; and,
  - II. Claims 22-32, drawn to a media dispensing apparatus, classified in class 400, subclass 624.

Furthermore, the Examiner states that in the event the Applicants elect invention Group I, a further election of species is required. The Examiner states that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, which are represented respectively by figures 2 and 3.

The Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, invention Group II (claims 22-32) to be examined.

## Summary

The Applicant believes that this reply constitutes a full and complete response to the Office action, and the Applicants furthermore request timely allowance of claims 22-32. In the alternative, further action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Quintin T. Phillips, Steven R. Folkner, and  
Jamison B. Slippy

By

Date: August 05, 2004

Thomas A. Olson

**Attorney and agent for Applicant**

Reg. No. 44,271

Phone: (509) 327-4748

*Application S/N: 10/613,899  
Docket Number: 100201499-1  
Response to Restriction Requirement*